

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown in the following listing of claims:

1. **(currently amended)** A fall protection device for an opening in a roof, said device comprising:
 - a plurality of vertical members each having a lower end;
 - a plurality of horizontal members connecting the vertical members;
 - a plurality of bearing feet each having a connecting portion and a bearing portion;
 - wherein each bearing foot is secured to the lower end of one of said plurality of vertical members so that the bearing portion of the bearing feet support the vertical members above the roof; and
 - wherein a ~~hardness of first material forming the bearing portion is~~ has a first material hardness greater than a second material hardness of a second material forming the connecting portion.
2. **(original)** The fall protection device of claim 1, wherein each bearing foot is molded of plastic.
3. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim 4 2, wherein the plastic is polypropylene.
4. **(original)** The fall protection device of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of vertical members is in the form of a tube.
5. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim 4, wherein each bearing foot has a an axially extending passage formed therein which communicates an interior space of the tube with ambient space outside the tube so that any liquid that enters the tube flows out of the bottom of the tube through the passage in the bearing foot by gravity.
6. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim 4 4, wherein the connecting portion of the bearing foot extends into an open lower end of the tube and resiliently engages an interior surface of the tube to secure the bearing foot thereto.

7. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim 1, wherein the bearing portion is annular~~-disc~~ shaped having a circular outer periphery, an upper surface₁ and a lower surface spaced from the ~~lower~~ upper surface₁ and wherein inner and outer edges of the lower bearing surface are free of sharp corners.

8. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim 1, wherein the bearing portion has an upper surface and a lower surface spaced from the ~~lower~~ upper surface and a thickness of the bearing portion is at least 0.25 inches.

9. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim 1, wherein the second material of the connecting portion and the first material of the bearing portion are each plastic materials and co-molded so that each bearing foot is of unitary construction.

10. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim 1, wherein both the second material hardness of the connection portion and the first material hardness of the bearing portion each fall within ~~the range~~ limits of Shore A 90 hardness.

11. **(currently amended)** A fall protection device for an opening in a roof, said device comprising:

at least one rail section having a vertical member;

wherein the vertical member has a lower end;

a bearing foot having a connecting portion and a bearing portion;

wherein the bearing foot is secured to the lower end of the vertical member by the connecting portion so that the bearing portion supports the vertical member above the roof; and

wherein a ~~hardness of~~ first material forming the bearing portion is has a first material hardness greater than a second material hardness of a second material forming the connecting portion.

12. **(original)** The fall protection device of claim 11, wherein the bearing foot is molded of plastic.

13. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim ~~44~~ 12, wherein the plastic is polypropylene.

14. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim 11, wherein the vertical ~~members~~ member is in the form of a tube.

15. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim 14, wherein the bearing foot has a an axially-extending passage formed therein which communicates an interior space of the tube with ambient space outside the tube so that any liquid that enters the tube flows out of the bottom of the tube through the passage in the bearing foot by gravity.

16. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim ~~44~~ 14, wherein the connecting portion of the bearing foot extends into an open lower end of the tube and resiliently engages an interior surface of the tube to secure the bearing foot thereto.

17. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim 11, wherein the bearing portion is annular-disc shaped having a circular outer periphery, an upper surface₁ and a lower surface spaced from the ~~lower~~ upper surface₁ and wherein inner and outer edges of the lower bearing surface are free of sharp corners.

18. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim 11, wherein the bearing portion has an upper surface and a lower surface spaced from the ~~lower~~ upper surface and a thickness of the bearing portion is at least 0.25 inches.

19. **(currently amended)** The fall protection device of claim ~~4~~ 11, wherein the second material of the connecting portion and the first material of the bearing portion are each plastic materials and co-molded so that the bearing foot is of unitary construction.

20. **(currently amended)** A fall protection device for an opening in a roof, said device comprising:

at least one rail section having a vertical member;

wherein the vertical member is in the form of a metal tube having an open lower end;

a bearing foot having a connecting portion and a bearing portion;
wherein the bearing foot is secured to the lower end of the vertical member by the connecting portion so that the bearing portion supports the vertical member above the roof;
wherein the connecting portion of the bearing foot extends into the open lower end of the tube and resiliently engages an interior surface of the tube to secure the bearing foot thereto;
wherein a ~~hardness of~~ first material forming the bearing portion is has a first material hardness greater than a second material hardness of a second material forming the connecting portion; and
wherein the second material of the connecting portion and the first material of the bearing portion are each a plastic material and co-molded so that the bearing foot is of unitary construction.